

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are the claims originally pending in the application.

Preliminary Matters

Applicants note that the Examiner has indicated consideration of the references submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements filed on June 8, 2006 and March 24, 2006.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ikeda et al. (JP 60-18648), hereinafter "Ikeda".

For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Independent Claim 1

In the cited prior art, an insulator, (8) has a cross section shape similar to a cross section shape of the slot (7) and the insulator (8) is inserted into the slot (7) before accommodating the coils (2) in the insulator (8). See Abstract of Ikeda. The insulator (8) is similar to an insulation sheet of the Prior art 2 described in paragraph [0006] of the specification of this invention. In Ikeda's case, it is difficult to dispose the insulator (8) for covering the entire slot peripheral wall. In the case that the insulator (8) is a thin film having thickness of micron order, it is difficult to insert the insulator (8) in the slot (7), and the breakage of insulator (8) is almost unavoidable.

To overcome above and other deficiencies of the art, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, the slot peripheral wall is covered with a sprayed powder coating of an electrical insulation material. For example, the insulator(8) of Ikeda is not a sprayed powder coating of an electrical insulation

material. Claim 1 further recites a pair of holding grooves opposing to each other is formed of cuts into the insulation coating on the pair of slot side walls at the vicinity of the slot opening.

Applicants respectfully submit that Ikeda does not teach or suggest the above features of claim 1 and therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Ikeda. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-10.

New Claims

Applicants add new claims 11 and 12. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency and by virtue of additional features set forth therein.

Claim 12 recites, *inter alia*, spraying a powder of an electrical insulation material on a slot peripheral wall of each slot to form an insulation coating and cutting into the insulation coating on the pair of slot side walls at the vicinity of the slot opening to form a pair of holding grooves opposing to each other. Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest these feature of claim 12 and therefore, claim 12 is patentable.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 Attorney Docket No.: Q93230
U.S. Appl. No.: 10/573,198

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

/Richard Turner/
Richard C. Turner
Registration No. 29,710

Date: August 10, 2007